



M. Jodi Rell
GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

April 13, 2010

Commander James Waters III, USN
Commanding Officer, USS VIRGINIA (SSN-774)
C/O Submarine Squadron FOUR
Naval Submarine Base
Groton, CT 06349-5205

Dear Commander Waters,

Welcome Home! And congratulations on a successful deployment to the Northern Atlantic, Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf. Every member of the crew should be rightfully proud of their accomplishments in defense of our nation, and for representing all Americans as impressive diplomats during port calls in Spain, Greece, United Arab Emirates and Turkey.

I know this homecoming is an extra special one because it marks the completion of the very first six-month deployment for USS VIRGINIA and the Virginia Class Submarine Program. The State of Connecticut is very happy to have supported the construction of USS VIRGINIA at Electric Boat in Groton. And we are equally happy to serve as your homeport at Naval Submarine Base New London.

In peace and war, diplomacy and combat, those who served in USS VIRGINIA during this *maiden deployment*, can be proud of their contribution to the nation's nuclear-powered submarine force as you marked this very important milestone for the Navy.

Welcome home to a grateful nation, and a very, very proud Connecticut homeport.

Well Done!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Jodi Rell".

M. Jodi Rell
Governor